



SPORTS

Flat Hat Sports Awards

Men's Soccer wins team of the year and Halfpenny honored as coach of the year.

SEE PAGE 10

OPINIONS

A world transformed

This year has been ripe with change, both on and off campus. We now have to embrace it.

SEE PAGE 7



VARIETY

Dynamic drama

Student composes second second play, "The Fall of the House of Usher."

SEE PAGE 8



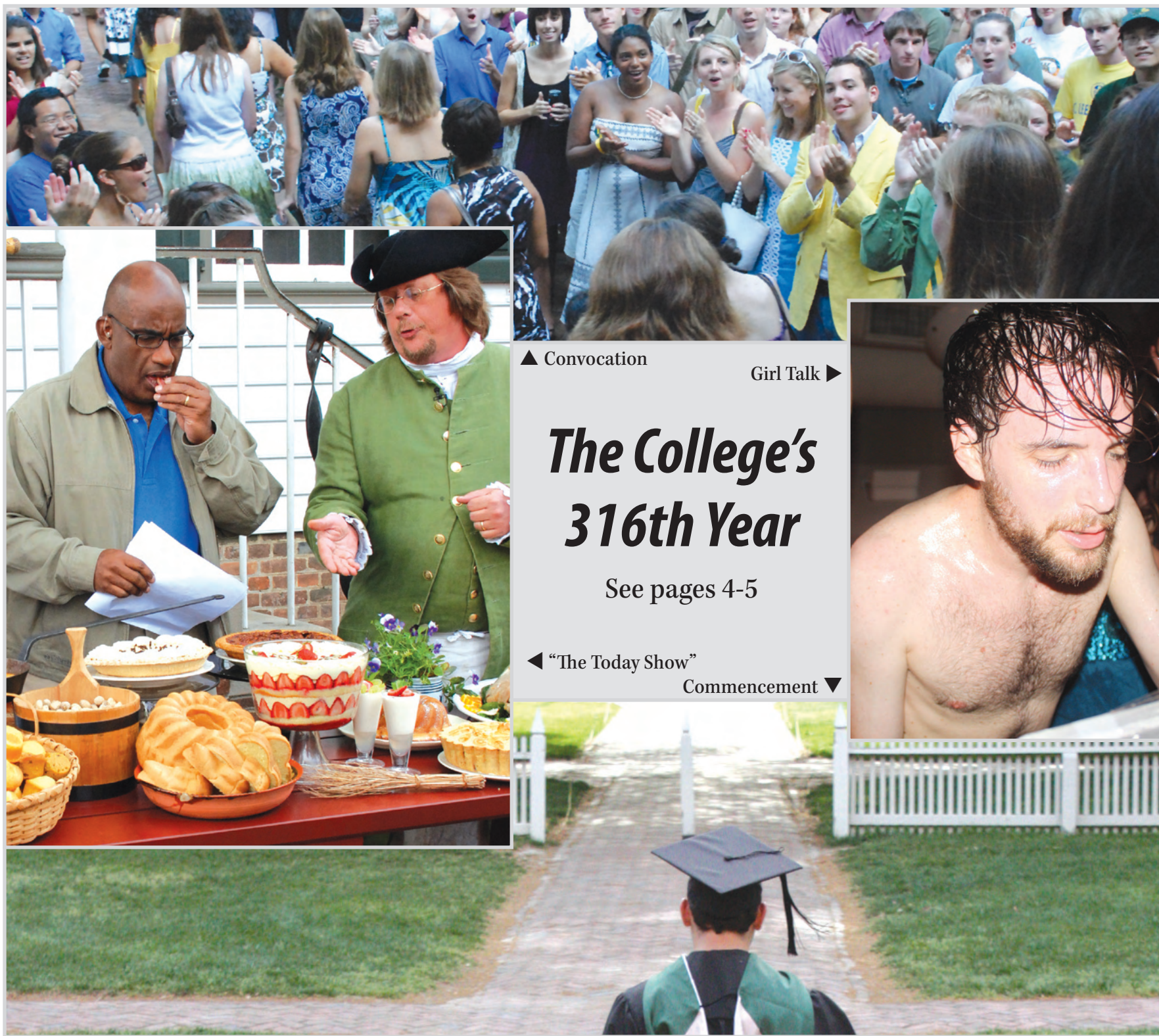
The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary — Est. 1911

VOL.98, NO.49

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009

FLATHATNEWS.COM



▲ Convocation

Girl Talk ▶

The College's 316th Year

See pages 4-5

◀ "The Today Show"

Commencement ▼

Victim criticizes appeals process

Alleged assailant granted degree by College

By MILES HILDER
Flat Hat Editor-in-Chief

When Laura Rogers '09 was a sophomore, she reported to the administration that she had been sexually assaulted. The case went through a judicial review, which continued into her junior year. Her alleged assailant, a junior at the time of the incident, lost the initial trial and his appeal. He was asked to leave the College.

Almost two years later, Rogers says administrators told her that her assailant had been granted a degree from the College of William and Mary. The decision had come from the College's highest administrator at the time, former College President Gene Nichol, Rogers said.

The president has the authority to overrule decisions made by the Student Conduct Council, Honor Council or administration. But Director of Student Conduct Dave Gilbert said the president rarely exercises this power.

"The way it is set up, the Board of Visitors delegates the authority for all student discipline to the College president," Gilbert said. "Not surprisingly, the president is not involved in day-to-day conduct. But because that authority is given to the president, then technically he can do anything within that authority. I will say that my experience is the president's office is pretty hesitant to change a ruling. They respect the process."

During a phone call with College Dean of Students Patricia Volp, Rogers said Volp told her Nichol got involved because of the legal pressure applied by her assailant's attorney, who was hired after the assailant lost his appeal. The only answer she received from the College concerning Nichol's decision came through Volp, who said that the decision was made because of "institutional concerns," Rogers said.

"I was told the administration didn't want to create another 'Duke'," she added.

Volp denies specifying what factors influenced the decision.

"I wouldn't say 'it is because of this,'

See ASSAULT page 3

Co-enrolled students adapt to life at College

Academic program graduates students for the first time this year

By ALEX GUILLÉN
Flat Hat Online Editor

Terry Stacey '09 and her husband wanted to play pool in the Sadler Center Wednesday night, but at first the desk attendant didn't believe she was a student.

"The guy at the desk said, 'So, I need some ID' He didn't know exactly how to phrase it because he didn't know who I was," Stacey, who is visibly older than the typical College of William and Mary

student said. "So, are you faculty?' 'No.' 'So, are you alumni?' 'No, not yet, but close.'"

Stacey, a proud grandmother of two, is among the first group of co-enrolled students to graduate from the College.

In the co-enrollment program, students at Virginia community colleges can receive an automatic transfer acceptance to the College after fulfilling several stringent requirements, including completing an associate's degree with a minimum 3.6 GPA. The students then phase into full-time schedules

and eventually graduate with a bachelor's degree from the College.

Stacey married when she was 20 and said she devoted herself fully to being a wife and mother. She worked at home during the '90s doing word processing, typing up resumes and term papers for college students.

"I just didn't really think about college until I suddenly realized one day my daughter was a senior in high school, and I'm going to have to go back to work, and being a secretary is not going to cut it anymore," Stacey said. She enrolled in an accounting course at Thomas Nelson Community College and eventually used the co-enrollment

See COLLEGE page 3

Steer Clear uses flags to illustrate the dangers of drunk driving

By JESSICA KAHLNBERG
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Steer Clear, and approximately 70 student volunteers, placed 13,470 flags in the Sunken Garden April 28 to commemorate the number of lives lost each year to drunk driving accidents.

Steer Clear is a student-run organization that provides free transportation around campus and the Williamsburg area for College of William and Mary students on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

"The purpose of this project is to provide a visual representation of the impact of drunk driving," Steer Clear Assistant Director of Administration Katherine Eklund '11 said. "Each flag represents one person who is killed in an alcohol-related car crash each year. That's 13,470 flags. It is a pretty serious statistic. To think that one of those flags represents a person with family and friends who are also affected is pretty amazing."

Eklund said the flags help students visualize and understand the dangers of drinking and driving.

"Drunk driving is a very pervasive issue, but one that does not always get a lot of attention in terms of awareness and prevention," Eklund said. "We wanted to put up this display so that the William and Mary community, and anyone who may walk by or see pictures, has a little more of a perspective on the dangers of drunk driving."

The display is also designed to advertise Steer Clear as a safe alternative to drinking and driving.

"The service we offer each weekend is very valuable and important, but we also want to remind people that they need to be safe, even when Steer Clear is not around," Eklund said. "As a safe ride service, we think it's our job to not only provide a service, but also raise awareness about the dangers of drunk driving and sexual assault."

Eklund said the timing of the event is particularly relevant.

"The event has been in planning for a while now, and it took a lot of time to organize it, so we wanted to make it at the end of the year," Eklund said.

See FLAGS page 6



SUN PARK — THE FLAT HAT

Members of Steer Clear placed flags, each representing an alcohol-related car crash fatality, in the Sunken Garden Tuesday.

Good luck on exams and have a great summer! For news over break, check Flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat resumes printing Aug. 21.

The Flat Hat

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Corrections
The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor where the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Quote of the Week
“It’s an outreach initiative aimed at welcoming newcomers to the College.”
— Sen. Jill Olszewski ’12 said about the SA Instruction Act.
See SA page 3

Weather

Friday



High 87°
Low 68°

Saturday



High 86°
Low 62°

Sunday



High 80°
Low 60°

Source: weather.com

STREET BEAT

What was the most exciting thing that happened this year?



“A snow day that reminded me of home, Canada.”

Kim Sunada '10



“When I heard that I won a scholarship to study in Romania this summer.”

Jared Young '11



“My twenty-first birthday, it was yesterday.”

Kate Mooney '10



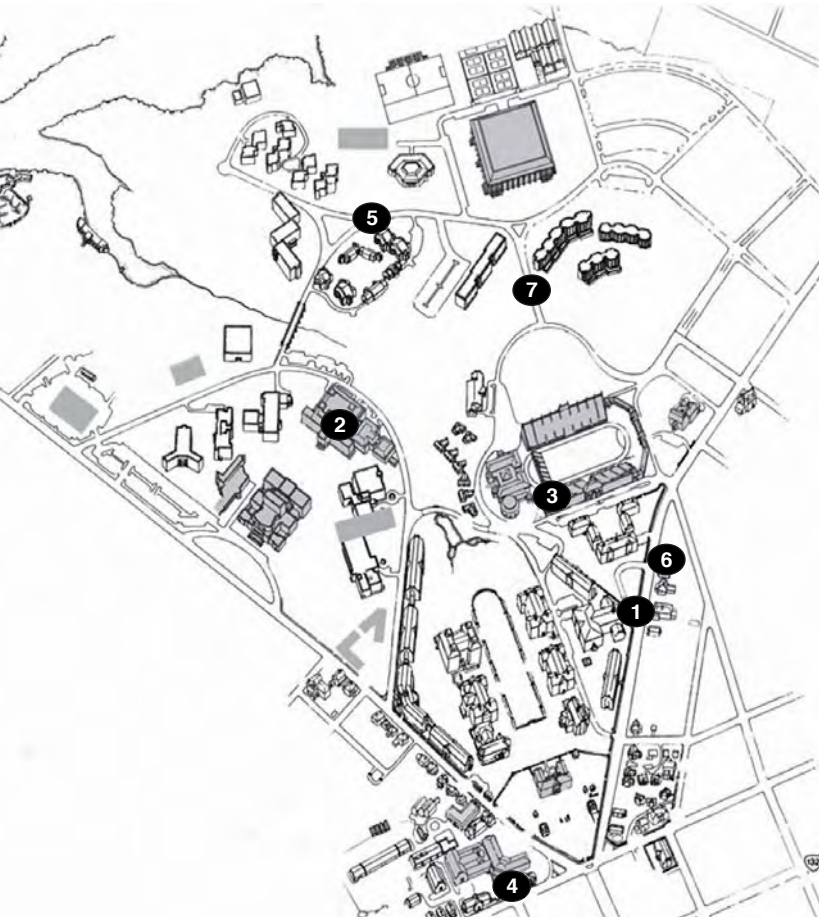
“Derek Cox being drafted.”

Doug Zimmer '10

— photos by Maral Noori-Moghaddam

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

April 21 to April 27



- 1 Tuesday, April 21** — An individual reported a stolen bicycle on the 300 block of Richmond Rd. The estimated value is \$200.
- 2 Thursday, April 23** — An individual reported a stolen student ID card at Earl Gregg Swem Library. The estimated value is \$15.
- 3** — An individual reported a vandalized vehicle at the Zable Stadium parking lot. The estimated damage is \$100.
- 4 Friday, April 24** — An individual reported a stolen diamond ring at Reves Hall. The estimated value is \$1,500.
- 5 Saturday, April 25** — An individual reported a stolen iPod on the 500 block of Ukrop Way. The estimated value is \$385.
- 6** — An individual reported a stolen license plate at the parking lot by the Human Resources building. The estimated value is \$128.
- 7** — An individual reported a vandalized side-view mirror on Yates Dr. The estimated value is \$200.
- 1 Monday, April 27** — An individual reported a vandalized bench on the 200 block of Richmond Rd. The estimated damage is \$500.
- 3** — An individual reported a stolen parking decal at Zable Stadium. The estimated value is \$305.

— compiled by Bertel King, Jr.

News in Brief

Students awarded academic prizes

A group of College of William and Mary students were awarded academic prizes by the William and Mary Alumni Association April 28 during a ceremony at the at the Alumni House. The association has given the awards to College students annually for the past 24 years. One junior and 18 seniors received academic awards this year. The students were honored in the areas of literature, drama, poetry, business, chemistry, physics, geology, music, history, art, art history, biology, government and international relations. The Alumni Association is a nonprofit organization that works to keep College alumni active in the life of the university.

Student arrested for marriage fraud

A former FBI agent and College of William and Mary student has been sentenced to 12 months in prison after admitting to entering a fake marriage to gain American citizenship more than seven years ago, according to the Daily Press. Yue Cheng was arrested in Williamsburg, where she was attending the Mason School of Business as a first-year graduate student in accounting. She pleaded guilty to five federal offenses, including marriage fraud and unlawfully claiming U.S. citizenship. Cheng’s citizenship has since been revoked, and her certificate of naturalization has been canceled. She was ordered to pay \$24,860 in restitution to the U.S. Navy, by which she was previously employed, and sentenced to a year in prison.

— by Bertel King, Jr.

Campus police hold food drive

Students, staff and faculty donate to local food pantry

By ADAM LERNER
Flat Hat Chief Staff Writer

The William and Mary Police Department sponsored a campus-wide food drive for FISH, a local food pantry, Tuesday and Wednesday. They will continue to accept donations at the campus headquarters through the weekend. “We have collected several hundred pounds of food for FISH,” Chief of Police Don Challis said. “We encourage students who are cleaning out their cupboards to bring appropriate food items to the police department.” Students, staff and faculty are asked to donate non-perishable staples such as canned meat, beans, rice, pasta, canned vegetables, tuna, peanut butter and jelly, chunky soups, cereal, crackers, powdered milk and other high-protein, high-energy foods. The idea to sponsor an on-campus food drive originated with Officer Chester Fowler,




HANNAH MCCARTHY — THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY
The William and Mary Police Department accepted donations in various buildings on campus, including the Campus Center.

who says he first considered hosting the food drive while watching a news story about the struggles of local food banks to keep up with the area’s increased demand in the economic downturn. “We have jobs while many others do not,” Fowler said in a press release. “It seems to me

the least we could do is to help out the community by providing supplies to the shelter.” Campus Police will also be providing hot dogs to students starting Friday at 9:00 p.m. at the Sadler Center Terrace. Students who blow .00 BAC on a breathalyzer test will also be given t-shirts.

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Co-enrollment program offers opportunities

COLLEGE *from page 1*

program to transfer to the College.

Earl McKenzie '10 has a similar story of how he came to college later in life.

He said he was not disciplined enough for college when he was younger, so he floated from job to job before joining the military. Eventually, he applied to become a helicopter pilot, an experience he said made him realize the value of setting and achieving goals. McKenzie retired from the Army several years ago and began considering what he could do.

"I decided I was going to go back to school, and I wanted to be a writer. I actually always wanted to be a writer since the ninth grade, but I never pursued it because my English skills were so poor," he said. "So I just told myself 'Well, if I'm ever going to do it, now is the time.' If I didn't do it then, I wasn't going to be a writer."

Now McKenzie is an English major. He plans to earn his master's of fine arts in creative writing after graduating in 2010.

Not all of the co-enrollment students are as old as other students' parents. Laura Roche-Villarreal '09 moved to the United States in 2001 after graduating high school.

She spent several years working and traveling before beginning classes at Tidewater Community College and eventually co-enrolling at the College.

"I have struggled. To be honest, I have to work really hard," she said. "[Nevertheless], it just has worked out so well."

Roche-Villarreal, an international relations major, said she plans on earning a master's degree in economics.

Many of the co-enrollment students met during their campus orientations, but several of

them, including Roche-Villarreal and Stacey, bonded after taking a university seminar — the transfer equivalent of a freshman seminar — on citizenship.

They may be older than typical students, but many who co-enroll are just as active in campus life.

Stacey, a business major, said she has sculpted, acted and danced with "traditionally aged" undergraduate students in art and kinesiology courses.

She even enrolled in Adventure Games, a kinesiology course that incorporates high-rope acrobatics.

Stacey especially enjoyed Convocation.

"I was so glad to be a part of that. I was so glad to go through the Wren, and I was glad to be a part of the audience — the screaming, hollering maniacs," she said.

Her participation in the Convocation tradition highlights Stacey's inclusive attitude toward college life.

"I act like I'm supposed to be there. I made up my mind when I came here that William and Mary was not going to change for me because this is a dormitory school, and it is a school of young people," Stacey said. "I enjoy that age. You all are funny. I mean, I'm here. I need to just make the most of it and not try and buck and make waves. Just go along with the flow, you know?"

Ultimately, Stacey said she and other co-enrolled students bring new understanding to the College's student body.

"We know what the community college scene is like and what the difference in difficulty between community college and William and Mary is," she said. "I think that the experiences we bring with us add to the depth and diversity here on campus, and I really hope that they keep on doing this."

Assault victim questions transparency of appeals

ASSAULT *from page 1*

because that is not something I am privy too," Volp said. "I wouldn't talk with students about things which I know very little."

The College rarely dismisses students permanently, Volp said. In a sexual misconduct trial, convicted students often receive indefinite suspensions, which can be lifted once certain criteria are met by the accused student.

"Nichol wasn't out to screw me over," Rogers said. "Nichol's actions kept my assailant away from me and other women, but at the same time it got it off the College's hands. My assailant would've had to ask to come back, to say that he learned, to show progress. By being granted a degree, he didn't have to do this."

Although Nichol's decision occurred just before he left the College in February 2008, Rogers, who enrolled at the College in 2005 and took a

medical leave of absence from the school following her junior year, said the president had been asked to review the case in December 2006.

John Donaldson, the College's assistant to the provost for legal affairs and a legal advisor on most student conduct cases, was the only member of the administration to contact Rogers about Nichol's decision, Rogers said. This happened almost six months after the ruling had been made.

The Student Handbook does not require victims of sexual assault to be informed of progress on their cases after the appeal stage.

Due to the nature of the case, Donaldson declined to comment on his involvement.

"During this appeal, they never talked to me," Rogers said. "Who was advocating on my behalf? They never informed me this was going on. I went through the initial hell of the judicial review, and then two years later I found out

there was a change. I am upset with the lack of transparency."

Volp disagrees with Rogers's claim that she did not have a voice in the administration.

"There is an advocate for students at every level I am aware of," Volp said. "It is not fair to say no one was advocating for her, or for other students."

Upon finding out about the decision, Rogers tried to reach out to Nichol, but she said Nichol declined to speak with her. Once College President Taylor Reveley took over, Rogers tried to contact him as well, but the response was the same: Reveley declined to talk, Rogers said.

Reveley declined to comment for this story due to federal laws that protect student privacy. Nichol did not return a request for comment.

Rogers was able to schedule a meeting concerning Nichol's decision with outgoing College Provost Geoff Feiss. After the meeting, she received a letter

from Feiss stating the grounds of her assailant's appeal. The letter — sent to Rogers Nov. 19, 2008, eight months after Nichol had left the College — was short and succinct, she said.

Feiss said in the letter that he discussed with Donaldson what information he could release to Rogers. Feiss wrote that Rogers's assailant had appealed the findings on the College's standard four grounds of appeal: lack of clear and convincing evidence, additional material evidence to the accused's benefit, procedural irregularities and excessive or inappropriate sanction. The letter did not make any indication on whether or not each appeal held ground, Rogers said.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits the College from discussing the details of any particular campus disciplinary case, said College Spokesman Brian Whitson. As the victim in this case, Rogers is not bound by this law.

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From Convocation to Commencement



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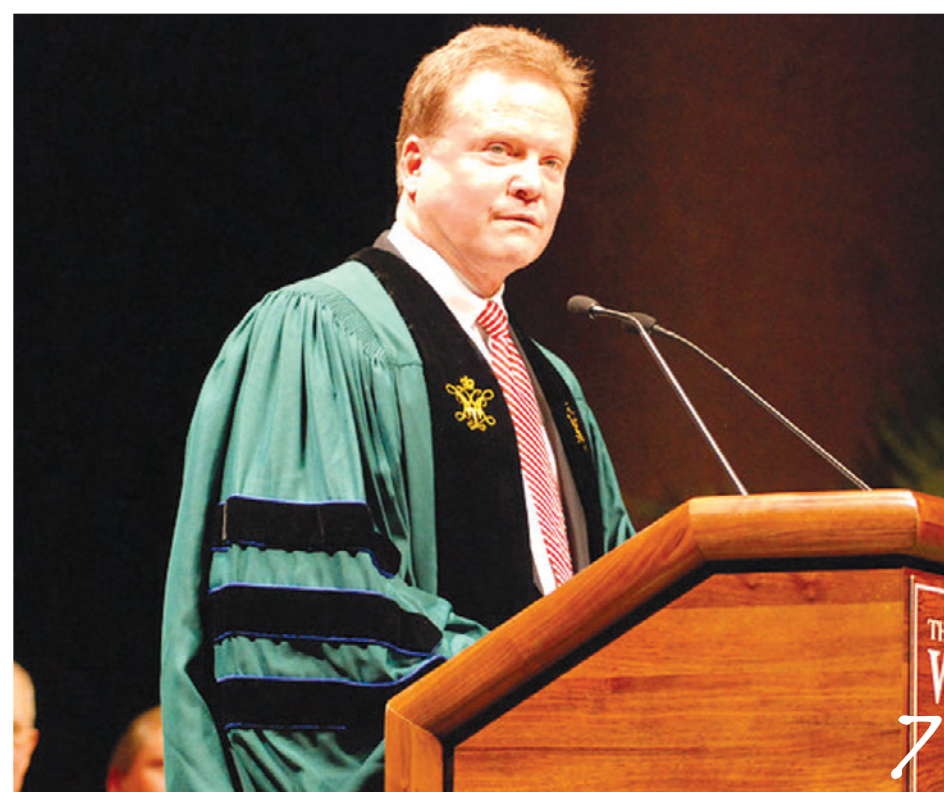
Fall 2008

- 1 — A group of enthused upperclassmen and faculty cheered as the Class of 2012 walked through the Wren Building during Convocation, marking the beginning of a new year at the College.
- 2 — Zach Pilchen '10 resigned from his position as Student Assembly Vice President. SA President Valerie Hopkins '09 appointed Kristin Slawter '09 as Pilchen's replacement.
- 3 — British duo The Ting Tings rocked the Lake Matoaka Amphitheatre at Homecoming. Chicago-based rappers the Cool Kids opened the show.
- 4 — Then-Interim College President Taylor Reveley was officially named as the 27th President of the College.
- 5 — "The Today Show" host Matt Lauer and weatherman Al Roker broadcasted live from Colonial Williamsburg as part of a presidential election series on battleground states.
- 6 — Tribe Football took on the University of Richmond with a chance to reach the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs. The team fell 23-20 in overtime.

Photos by Caitlin Fairchild, Maral Noori-Moghaddam and John Quinn



6



7



8

Spring 2009

- 7 — Sen. Jim Webb gave the keynote address at Charter Day.
- 8 — Tribe athletics headed into Kaplan Arena over the winter. Women's basketball finished the season with a 14-17 record.
- 9 — The College called its first snow day in five years. Students took to the Sunken Garden to build snowmen and have snowball fights.
- 10 — Michael Powell '85 will step down after his tenure as Rector of the Board of Visitors has expired. The BOV elected Henry Wolf '64 J.D. '68 as his replacement.
- 11 — Girl Talk's electric mashups provided the beat for the College's biggest dance party of the year.
- 12 — Led by Kevin Dua '09, 242 students gathered in the Sunken Garden in an attempt to break the world record for the greatest number of people performing the dance to Michael Jackson's "Thriller." Dua is still awaiting confirmation that the group shattered the record from the Guinness World Records office in London.
- 13 — On May 17, the class of 2009 will once again walk through the Wren Building during Commencement, marking the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

Page designed by Caitlin Fairchild and Ameya Jammi

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SA funds outreach, transit at final meeting

By MEGHAN BOHN
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The last Student Assembly senate meeting of the academic year opened with the introduction of the newly elected committee chairs.

Sen. Brittany Fallon '11 will chair the Finance and Budget Committee, Sen. Ross Gillingham '10 will chair the Public Affairs Committee, Sen. Betty Jeanne Manning '12 will chair the Student Life Committee, Sen. Stef Felitto '12 will chair the Policy Committee and Sen. Jill Olszewski '12 will chair the Outreach Committee.

The first piece of legislation passed was the Student Outreach Department Act, sponsored by Sens. Ben Brown '11 and Fallon.

In addition to forming an Executive Department of Student Outreach, this bill would dissolve the Agency for Internal Affairs and transfer its duties to the SA President.

"The Student Outreach Department would be responsible for the Ambassadors Program, among other things," SA President Sarah Rojas '10 said. "Members from the executive board would attend campus organizations' meetings, helping to make the department more proactive and student ... friendly than the internal agency currently is."

The Act was passed unanimously.

The next piece of business was the Summer Shuttle Service Act. Sponsored by Sen Brown '10 and Grad. Sen. Karl Mendoza '10,

this bill would provide transportation between off campus summer session residences, the Williamsburg area Transportation Center and Bloom during the summer months when the Green and Gold Lines stop operating.

There was debate as to whether Monticello Marketplace should also be included in the taxi service.

Mendoza pointed out that Williamsburg Area Transport lines could be used to reach many other locations like Monticello Marketplace and New Town.

"We're not looking to provide an alternative to the bus system; we are looking to supplement it," Sen. Walter McClean '09 said.

The amendment to include additional locations was struck down, with 14 votes against, four votes for and one abstention.

The senate passed the bill unanimously without amendments.

The Instruction Act also passed, with 19 votes for and one vote against.

This bill appropriates money for the printing of posters to be distributed to all incoming students in the fall.

The posters, titled "SA's Little Instructions for Life at William and Mary," list various traditions and activities at the College.

"This is a great way to get [the] SA's name out there and get new students acclimated to life at William and Mary," Olszewski, the act's sponsor, said. "It's an outreach initiative aimed at welcoming newcomers to the College."

The Exam Taxi Service Act II, which would allocate money for a taxi service to run within a five-mile radius from the center of campus between midnight and 7 a.m. during the upcoming exam period, passed unanimously.

The last bill discussed was the Response to Accusations of Terrorism Act.

This legislation came as a result of the Virginia Terrorism Threat Assessment Report. Compiled by the Virginia Fusion Center, a division of the Virginia State Police, the report alleges that the College is a known location of anarchist extremists.

The act requests that William and Mary Chief of Police, Donald Challis, release all communications between Campus Police and the Virginia Fusion Center regarding the Terrorism Threat Assessment Report.

The Act also requests that an official explanation be offered to the College community from the Campus Police in the event that they declare the College to be a breeding ground for terrorism.

"These allegations are damaging to the reputation of William and Mary," sponsor Sen. Steven Nelson '10 said. "Let Donald Challis explain why we are terrorists, if he thinks we are terrorists, because we deserve an explanation."

Nelson believes that this threat assessment is "anything but credible."

The bill was passed with 14 votes in favor, five against and one abstention.

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Steer Clear display raises community awareness

FLAGS from page 1

"Also, with Blowout and summer coming up, we thought it would be a good time to remind the community of the dangers of drunk driving."

Kim McMasters '12 said the display of tens of thousands of flags had a profound effect on her, making her stop to think about the magnitude of the problem of driving under the influence of alcohol.

"It's really scary," McMasters said. "But I think at William and Mary drinking and driving is not a huge problem. It's really good, you can walk pretty much everywhere — to the units, places nearby, off campus. You don't

see people driving that much."

Even though she doesn't believe drinking and driving is an extremely big problem at the College, Steer Clear public relations chair Laila Selim '10 said it's important for students to understand the consequences of drinking and driving wherever they may be.

"While William and Mary hasn't had a death from drunk driving in a very long time, I think it's safe to say that this issue is a reality in our college community," Selim said. "Hopefully, projects such as this one, in conjunction with the existence of Steer Clear, will influence students' decisions and judgment in such situations."

SUN PARK — THE FLAT HAT
A student volunteer places flags in the Sunken Garden.

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Cheers and Jeers

On this campus, the sounds of ringing bells and wanton intemperance can only mean one, bittersweet thing: Blowout. Here at The Flat Hat, we mark the day with a year’s worth of cheers and jeers.

Cheers to the College for being a site for the free exchange of ideas. Jeers to those who rehash the same tired debates over First Amendment protections and Student Assembly Funding rules every time there’s a controversial show, exhibition or speaker.

Cheers to the College for improving its sustainability grade from a D- to a C. Jeers for having a C.

Cheers to the College for building more dorms. Jeers to Williamsburgers who aren’t satisfied with the state’s highest on-campus residency rate, excepting military institutions.

Cheers to “The Today Show” for putting Williamsburg in the spotlight during election season. Jeers to Luke Russert for forgetting the nation’s alma mater while standing a stone’s throw away. Jeers to him for only apologizing to Virginia Tech and James Madison University.

Cheers to the College for reviewing its alcohol policy with an eye towards moving parties back to campus. Jeers for forcing them off in the first place. After all, college should be fun.

Cheers to the City of Williamsburg for opening the door to three-person rule changes. Jeers to Zoning Administrator Rhodney Rhodes for still recommending spying on students. More jeers for his hating on our homeless fraternities.

Cheers to College chief of staff Michael J. Fox and Nick Fitzgerald ’09 for working to improve the off-campus housing situation. Jeers to Bill Dell for being an intolerable stick in the mud.

Cheers to Michael J. Fox for being named Michael J. Fox.

Cheers to the anonymous freshman who toughed out a mid-afternoon thigh stabbing. Jeers to the weirdo who attacked him. Seriously?

Cheers to Professor Emily Pease for finally offering a journalism class.

Cheers to Aramark for trying to bring new food options to campus. Jeers for Aramark scaring Panda Express away.

Cheers to Virginia’s General Assembly for killing the ill conceived legislation tampering with the College’s ratio of in-state and out-of-state students. Jeers to Del. David B. Albo (R-Fairfax) and Del. Tim Hugo ’86 (R-Fairfax) for that bill’s ill conception.

Cheers to the Student Exchange for its convenience. Jeers for its prices.

Cheers to Facebook and Google Chat for making life easier. Jeers to Twitter and Juicy Campus.

Cheers to voter registration efforts. Jeers to voter turnout in local elections.

Cheers to Zach Pilchen ’09 last year. Jeers for this year.

Cheers to the Democratic gubernatorial candidates for stopping by to have a debate. Jeers for not meaningfully discussing higher education while here.

Cheers to Robert Gates ’65 and Christina Romer ’81 for joining the president’s administration. Jeers for bailing out Chrysler. Good call.

Cheers to the Board of Visitors for its planned improvements to Tucker Hall and the arts facilities. Jeers to continuing to hold classes in sinking buildings.

Cheers to snow days. Jeers to those holidays that don’t get us out of class. And to rain.

Cheers to the Class of 2009. Jeers for its class gift stinginess.

Cheers to the College of William and Mary’s perseverance despite the trials of the last year. Jeers to the economy.

The staff editorial represents the opinion of The Flat Hat. The editorial board, which is elected by The Flat Hat’s section editors and executive staff, consists of Miles Hilder, Sam Sutton, Mike Crump, Matt Poms and Andy Henderson. The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Limit letters to 250 words and columns to 700 words. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only. E-mail submissions to fhopinions@gmail.com.

Predictions for 2009-2010



Williamsburg announces revision of three-person rule to zero-person rule.



Even less-offensive art show draws protests.



President Reveley reaches new heights of deadpan absurdity.

By OLIVIA WALCH, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

Change has come. Now what?

Ed Innace

FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



As this is the last issue of The Flat Hat for the 2008-2009 school year, I wish to speak to an overarching theme that has characterized our experience this year: change, more than anything else, best explains what has happened to us, the College of William and Mary and our world since last August when we arrived on campus.

Of course change is a constant for any university. Each year we take new classes with new professors and move from our old dorm rooms into new ones — hopefully bigger and with air conditioning. We become freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors for the first time. For some of us the change is even more profound as we may be entering college for the first time, going on to graduate schools or stepping out into the real world. This happens every year. However, it is rare that the normal changes in our college life are so mirrored and amplified by change in our institution and in our world.

Our college has been profoundly altered this year. Soon after the start of the school year, our then-interim President Taylor Reveley became the 27th president of the College. Later in the year, our provost, Geoff Feiss, announced that he will be stepping down and will be succeeded by Dr. Michael R. Halleran. Just over a week ago, Henry Wolf ’64 J.D. ’68 succeeded Michael Powell ’85 as the Rector of the Board of Visitors. We also have a new dean at the law school and are in the process of finding a new vice president of student affairs. These represent personnel changes in many of the most

important positions at our institution. The finances of the College have also been altered. The Virginia General Assembly continues to cut funding — actually not anything new — but now we are receiving money from the federal government through the stimulus bill and, as it is far from enough to balance the books, tuition is on the rise.

On the national level, change has been a theme ever since it was adopted as the battle cry of President Barack Obama’s campaign. In this last year we have witnessed the historic election of the nation’s first black president as well as the resurgence of the Democratic Party, which has long been the underdog. We have also experienced a global financial crisis that has shaken many people’s faith in our economy. Truly, this year was nothing if not interesting. But where does that leave us?

Change gives us reason for both fear and hope. It presents us with new problems — an uncertain future, higher tuition and that 400-level econ class you’ve been dreading. It also allows us to make a clean break from old ways that perhaps were not effective in dealing with old issues, let alone new ones. Most of all, we must realize that change in and of itself does not solve

problems. It merely gives us an opportunity to walk in a new direction. Change is only beneficial when we seize the opportunity it presents and strive to use it to our advantage. This is not an easy task. It requires long-term dedication and perseverance. Problems are not solved overnight, and change can only be judged after it is given sufficient time to prove itself. Therefore, let next year be one of consistency so that we may walk straight down this new road and see where it takes us.

E-mail Ed Innace at einnace@wm.edu.

Change is only beneficial when we seize the opportunity it presents and strive to use it to our advantage.

College values own liability over the health and safety of students

Laura Rogers

FLAT HAT GUEST COLUMNIST

Three years ago this April, I was sexually assaulted at the College of William and Mary. For the purpose of this article I will refer to my assailant as John Doe.

I made the decision to report the incident to the Dean of Students Office during the summer of 2006. After a seven-hour hearing, Doe was found responsible and dismissed from the College until my graduation. His subsequent appeals were denied.

I cannot properly describe how profoundly the assault affected my personal life and academic career. I felt incredibly alone and isolated as I realized many of my peers judged and blamed me for my assault. Prior to the judicial hearing I was harassed, and my car was keyed with “shut up whore” by members of my assailant’s fraternity. In my junior year, I took a medical withdrawal from the College to take time to deal with my issues

stemming from the incident.

In December of 2006, then-President Gene Nichol was asked to review the case in the last line of appeal. Imagine my surprise when the Dean of Students Office informed me at the end of last year that Nichol had ruled on my case. Unbeknownst to me, Doe’s lawyer and the Office of the President had been in continuous contact for the last two years.

Before Nichol left the College, he granted Doe a degree in absentia. The deans expressed their outrage over the decision to me. In their words, this ruling was “completely unprecedented.” In previous similar cases, presidents have consulted the dean of students and asked how and why initial rulings were made. Nichol made this decision without consulting anyone. By granting a degree in absentia, Nichol completely undermines the entire judicial process.

Doe eventually would have been allowed to return to the College. However, the original sanctions would have required him to undergo counseling, perform community service and report to a committee on what he had learned before he could return. Nichol’s decision removed all

responsibility and accountability for Doe’s actions.

Nichol also clearly saw the value in keeping Doe off campus, considering he was not allowed to return for his senior year or participate in Commencement. In his resignation e-mail to the College, Nichol said, “I’ve said before that the values of the College are not for sale.” Where was this sentiment to refuse to

Nichol and the current administration need to think of exactly what message they are sending to other victims of sexual assault.

compromise in my case?

After the initial shock and anger wore off, I was determined to figure out what had transpired over the last two years. My inquiries were stonewalled by the current administration. I only received meetings with high-level administrators by being obnoxiously persistent. Since this was a legal case between Doe and the College, I was

not entitled to know the details even though the case directly involved me.

I learned that Doe appealed the ruling under the four umbrella options for sexual misconduct cases, including “additional material evidence to his benefit.” I cannot even know what this new evidence was. As far as reasons for why the decision was made, administrators cited “institutional concerns” and fears over creating an incident similar to the one at Duke University.

What institutional concerns are these? Not to get sued? Nichol and the current administration need to think of exactly what message they are sending to other victims of sexual assault. Their handling of my case sets a dangerous precedent for similar cases in the future.

Of all of my friends in college who were sexually assaulted, I was the only one who went through with a judicial hearing. I felt like justice was done and that my voice was heard through my hearing, but now I feel like my voice was effectively silenced by the actions of Nichol and the administration.

My case highlights a serious lack consideration for victims’ rights in

judicial cases. That it took months for the College to inform me of Nichol’s actions is inexcusable. The Student Handbook requires written notification to the reporting party of the outcome of the initial hearing. However, the Student Handbook is silent on informing the reporting party of the outcome of appeals, which I believe is an intentional oversight.

The College’s number one concern, after all, is liability. The same confidentiality clause that serves to protect the victim also acts to protect College administrators. The handbook also offers reporting parties no protection from harassment.

I cannot help but compare the lack of transparency in my case to the Board of Visitor’s actions last year. For that reason, I end with Nichol’s own farewell words: that in the future, the College should not “be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.”

Laura Rogers is a senior at the College. Editor’s Note: The views, opinions and assertions of the writer do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Flat Hat.

VARIETY

Variety Editor Mike Crump
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‘Necrofeelings’ keeps the audience alive

Student and professor-run production surprises

By CAITLIN FAIRCHILD
Flat Hat Photo Editor

“You heard your parents having sex and you liked it?” “You masturbate to The Wiggles?” “You put peanut butter somewhere on your

body when you know your dog likes peanut butter.”

Accusations flew wildly at the Muscarelle Museum of Art Tuesday evening. These outlandish allegations were not a part of a dysfunctional

therapy session, but rather the final performance of “NECROFEELINGS: Live the Dream!”

The hour-long show — the culmination of the music class, Performance Arts Ensemble class — was a collaborative experience among professors of music Greg Bowers and Sophia Serghi and the seven student participants. Everything in the entire performance spawned from class exercises, with each segment taking between eight and 10 weeks. The small class size allowed the performers to grow more comfortable with one another.

“Since we wrote all the material, we made it what we wanted it to be,” David Witkowsky ’11 said.

Several types of media were brought together in the show. The performance utilized film segments, sound effects and props such as Christmas lights, cans of beer and fresh fruit.

“A main theme was individual actions that lead to the construction of identity,” Bowers said. “The group felt that it was not necessarily the important or productive acts that necessarily defined the individual, but rather the trivial gestures — wasting time or what one does when no one is looking.”

The show began with the sound of a toilet flush, as the seven student performers who sat among the spectators jumped into the show randomly, eliciting a surprise reaction from many members of the audience.

Four screens were synced to play video segments — some had narrative structure or interacted with the physical performers. One video segment featured a Big Brother-like character played by professor of music Brian Hulse, who yelled absurd commands while the seven bewildered players scrambled around to obey.

“Listen only to Genesis.

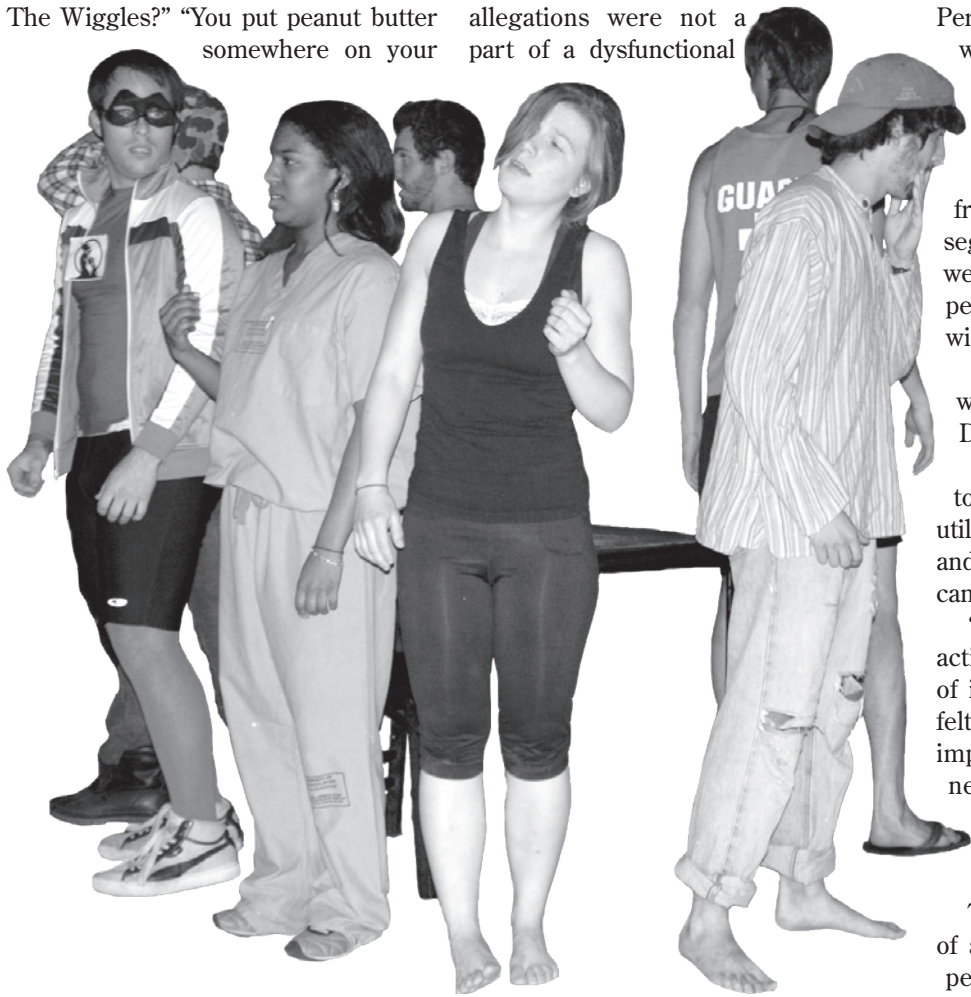
Write five to six pages on your ineptitude,” he bellowed. “This is America — pee into the wind.”

In another scene, the mood shifted from lighthearted surreality to slightly disturbing. Performers Caroline Jackson ’09 and Michael Singer ’11 emerged in hooded sweatshirts stumbling around and shoving each other to haunting music played over the speakers. They collapsed across a table and began gathering and snorting an unidentified powder until they started to cough, thrashing around and gasping.

As the music intensified, sounds of gasping breath and retching grew louder, overtaking the melody.

Following a brief pause, Jackson rose and checked Singer’s vitals.

See **PERFORMANCE** page 9



PHOTOS BY CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT
Students in a performance arts class created a multimedia presentation about individual decisions shaping personal identity. The performance took place Tuesday.



THAT GUY: NICK METHENY

Country boy preps for life in Washington

By LAUREN BILLINGSLEY
Flat Hat That Guy Columnist

Nick Metheny walks up to the Daily Grind, panting in the recent heat wave as he drops two large packages on an outside table. Originally from Kingwood, W.Va., Nick spent the first years of his life chasing cattle and traipsing around an idyllic rural landscape only to find himself jetting across the globe a few years later to places like Australia and Finland for study and leisure. Now a public health major, this graduating senior will be attending George Washington University in Washington, D.C., next fall to study global public health and hopes to work for the United Nations running sexual assault prevention programs. Nick loves the down-to-earth intelligence promoted by the College of William and Mary, a good conspiracy novel and hanging out with his fraternity brothers. After talking with him, it was not a surprise to discover that he had won the superlative of “friendliest” in high school.

What was your early life like in West Virginia?

I spent the first six or eight years in West Virginia on a farm with cows and pigs and stuff. It was really cool. You have to drive at least half an hour to

find a gas station and an hour to a hospital. It’s actually the only place — except for Alaska — where arctic vegetation grows, so it’s also always cold. I remember I learned how to drive a four-wheeler basically before I could walk. And, I had dirt bikes growing up, which was fun as well. We used to chase the cows with trucks; so I was like 12 years old driving this big-ass truck and trying to corral cattle. That was probably really dangerous.

You’re going to be studying at GWU next year. How are you feeling about living up in Washington, D.C.?

I have no idea where I’m living, I have no idea with who I’m living — I don’t know anything. It’ll be cool to be right in the middle of the city though. The campus buildings are separated by buildings like the U.S. Department of the Treasury, for example. I’m afraid I’ll get lost, though, because I don’t know D.C. that well. I’ve only ever visited. I grew up on a farm. I don’t even know what living in a city entails; I love being there though.

What’s the coolest place you’ve ever visited?

My favorite place I’ve visited is in Finland. I spent my junior year



MARAL NOORI-MOGHADDAM — THE FLAT HAT

See **METHENY** page 9

Student writes second musical

By MIKE CRUMP
Flat Hat Variety Editor

To have written a full-length musical before one’s 22nd birthday is no small feat. To have written two is almost unheard of.

Mike Johnson ’09 wowed the College of William and Mary community two years ago with “Tragedy! (A Musical Comedy),” inspired by Shakespeare’s “Titus Andronicus,” has just released his second major work.

“The Fall of the House of Usher,” co-written by Johnson and Brent Cirves ’81, recently began casting for a run at the Capital Fringe Festival in Washington D.C., this summer. Johnson and Cirves also applied for a space in the New York Fringe Festival, where ‘Tragedy!’ was performed, but they will not hear back for several weeks.

The play, loosely based off of the Edgar Allan Poe short story of the same name, tells the story of William, a young musician who is brought into the home of fellow composer Roderick Usher where he meets Usher’s partner Annabel Lee and brilliant sister Madeline. The play follows William, Annabel Lee and Madeleine as they write music together and William begins to fall in love with both the young women. The story takes a dark turn however, when characters begin to descend into madness after an unexpected death.

Unlike many musicals, the songs in ‘Usher’ are more than just expository. “All the characters are brilliant

musicians and songwriters,” Johnson said. “Each song is supposedly written and performed by characters in the play.”

Johnson said this aspect gives his show a more cohesive feel.

“They all have a reason for their songs,” he said.

Drawing largely from Poe’s short story, “The Fall of the House of Usher” also incorporates other Poe works, including poems “Annabel Lee” and “The Raven.”

Johnson said he was inspired to write the show while he was studying abroad in China when Cirves, his former high school teacher, sent him the story.

“We had been talking about doing a musical together,” Johnson said. “After reading the story I wrote him back saying ‘Let’s just do it.’”

Johnson and Cirves gave themselves a timeline of one year to complete the show, splitting the work according to their strengths. Johnson, a music major, covered the composing, while Cirves, an established playwright, wrote the book and lyrics. After Johnson returned from China, the two began an intensive brainstorming session for show material.

“Everyday for two weeks, I would write a song and Brent would write a scene,” Johnson said. “In the end, there were three decent songs. Or at least three that I didn’t hate.”

The show currently runs about two hours, with 19 songs, two full acts and an intermission.

See **HOUSE OF USHER** page 9

’90s band to perform at blowout celebration

By CHRIS DAVIS
Flat Hat Staff Writer

One-hit wonders, always keen for a new dollar and the chance to reach out to audiences, take any gigs they’re offered. In the case of this year’s Blowut though, the band didn’t even have to be asked. Alternative pop band and ’90s one-hit wonder Sister Hazel is scheduled to perform today, though it was never originally considered.

“The [original] list consisted of bands such as Grace Potter and Bedouin Soundclash. Grace Potter was our first choice, but they declined our offer,” Alma Mater Productions Music Chair Seira Nakagawa ’10 said.

As AMP prepared to make an offer to Bedouin Soundclash, Assistant Vice

President for Student Affairs and AMP advisor Mark Constantine informed the board members that he was contacted by Sister Hazel’s agent, who said the band would be willing to play the gig. The AMP Music Committee decided to accept the band’s offer.

“We agreed that this was an opportunity we did not want to miss. We are all very excited to have the opportunity to work with Sister Hazel,” Nakagawa said.

The folk-rock-pop band, best known for its 1997 hit “All for You,” reached the eleventh spot on Billboard’s Hot 100 list. Though the original version of the song featured on its self-titled debut album was acoustic, the radio version that topped the charts uses a full rock accompaniment with

percussion, bass and electric. Since “All for You” dominated airwaves, the band has not managed another hit of similar success. It has been successful enough, however to stick together and has released six studio albums since 1994. Its songs have been featured on several movie and television soundtracks including “10 Things I Hate About You,” “The Wedding Planner” and “Scrubs.”

In addition to entertainment provided by Sister Hazel, the Blowout celebration will have free tacos in the afternoon, food and drink for dinner purchasable with meal plan swipes and inflatable activities including a moon bounce. The event will take place in the Sunken Garden. Rain location will be William and Mary Hall.



CAITLIN FAIRCHILD — THE FLAT HAT
Mike Johnson ’09 [RIGHT] watches a student audition for a role in “The Fall of the House of Usher.” Johnson composed the music for Brent Cerves’s ’81 script and lyrics.

CAPSULE REVIEW

CHESTER FRENCH LOVE THE FUTURE

For better or worse, the era of T-Pain’s relevance, or the acceptance of Auto-Tune as a genuine musical practice, does not seem to be losing any steam. Thus, any signs of innovation have called for attention such as Lady Gaga’s refusal to either let us read her poker face or to don a pair of pants. Perhaps it is fitting that Chester French has served as the opening act on Lady Gaga’s first headlining tour, since the band is also on the cusp of commercial success, due in large part to its alleged freshness.



The duo of Harvard University alumni make a case for themselves in their debut set “Love the Future,” released under

Pharell’s Star Trak/Interscope Records. Although their label insinuates a hip-hop focus, if anything is gleaned from a quick listen it is that Chester French’s genre is difficult to define. It is definitely some degree of pop, as evidenced by radio-friendly tracks like singles “She Loves Everybody,” “Jimmy Choos” and “C’mon.” The distinctive sound of vocalist D.A. Walach harkens back to the Beach Boys, and Maxwell Drummey shows musical prowess on instruments ranging from pop music staples such as guitar, percussion and keyboard to more unique sounds like the marimba and theremin. The interchanges between spacey tracks like “Country Interlude” may be a little too long, but the heavy bass and beats elsewhere create a trademark of variety in the music. However, the album can be unapologetically cheesy, such as when Wallach and Drummey combine a jazzy piano backing with the lyrics “You’re so fresh / You’re fresh to death.” High points in both vocals and production come during “Bebee Buell,” which features a solid hook and an amusing chorus of high-pitched ohs. Although the album does not reveal any revolution in music or an overwhelming sense of innovation, Chester French has put itself into a position from which it can evolve into a household name in the industry.

— by Tim Heck
★★★★☆

Metheny counts down to “delicious” graduation

METHENY *from page 8*

of high school there for a study abroad thing, which was really cool. I didn’t really like high school and wanted to get away; I just wanted to travel. I had been to Australia before — in ninth grade — and loved it, so this was a way for me to do it more extensively, with a family and stuff. They randomly placed me in Finland. I want to go back.

Did that change the way you look at travel?

Definitely. The first time I went abroad I had never been away from home except for a week at Boy Scout camp, and then I went to Australia for three weeks by myself with this student ambassador program. I was the youngest one, which was difficult. It definitely taught me to live on my own, and wash clothes in a bathtub and eat shrimp on the barbie. We lived in a sugar cane field for a while there in Australia.

In terms of issues, what really matters to you?

I’m really involved with sexual assault prevention on campus — One In Four, SAPA [Sexual Assault Peer Advocates] and [I’m] on the SA [Student Assembly] for the issue. It’s something I think is a really big push on this campus, and that’s a good thing. A lot of people need to learn about it and why it happens, and be more educated about it. People need to both protect themselves and be protected.

What characteristics do you admire in people?

People who are genuine; people who don’t try to make themselves out as more than they are. Just be yourself — it took me a long time to learn that. I tried to be somebody I wasn’t for a long time, and it didn’t work out so well because I wasn’t comfortable with myself — and now I am. I like when people make me laugh a lot, and I also like people who are smart. That’s probably why I like William and Mary. I don’t mind being the dumb kid in the room because I love listening to people talk about how interested they are in things, especially when they’re excited. Health and populations are what make me excited in academics, but if I know nothing about physics and I’m around people who want to talk about physics, that’s great.

Describe yourself in a word.

Delicious. That’s also a word I overuse a lot. I use delicious in contexts that don’t even make sense, like someone asks, “How was your day?” I’ll say, “It was delicious.”

Favorite genre of movies or books?

I really like the Dan Brown type of books — conspiracy books. They make you think because, even if you know they aren’t true, it’s fun to think it might be. I’m really excited for the “Angels and Demons” movie.

Where do you go for coffee?

I don’t like coffee. I really like coffee to do work, so



MARAL NOORI-MOGHADDAM — THE FLAT HAT

I never drink it unless its finals or something where I really need caffeine. That’s how I got through college. Don’t drink coffee unless you really want to work. And I’d probably say The Daily Grind because it’s not a corporate monster. If I’m in a city I don’t want to go to anything that’s a chain; I want to visit something local and not on the beaten path.

If you could go anywhere and with three people, who would they be and where would you go?

I’d take my girlfriend, because she’s up for anything. I’d take my best friend, Dan because he’s also up for anything. He did a Monroe [Scholar] project on the train system in Europe and literally rode around for an entire month following soccer matches. He slept under a tree in Amsterdam for three days; he just chained his backpack to a tree and slept on it. I’d also take my friend Carrie Daut because she’s really fun. We’d go to Greece, I’ve never been. Carrie was there and is obsessed, and Dan wouldn’t give a shit.

What should students not miss out on here?

There have been random nights at 2:30 in the morning when you’re laying in the Sunken Garden and looking at the stars, or when you go to Lake Matoaka and just sit and talk. Those kinds of things make your college experiences. It’s not that crazy formal you went to or how drunk you got one night, it’s going to be you hanging out with the people that make college worth going to.

You are in Delta Phi. Any fun fraternity memories that stick out in particular?

A couple of my friends and I, sophomore year during fall break, drove and picked people up in NoVA [northern Virginia] and New York City and then just

drove 12 hours to Montreal. We spent two nights in Montreal and one in [the Delta Phi] chapter in Albany and then drove all the way back. It was the most fun I’ve ever had. My window broke down in Delaware, and we had like eight and a half hours to drive. It was a Sunday afternoon, so nothing was open, so I had to stop at some random Target and duct tape my window. I left my car parked for two days in Montreal with a duct-taped window and someone broke in, stole my cell phone, camera, wallet, radar detector, everything. It was still like the most fun in my life.

Any fun Blowout plans?

I’m going to ring the bell; that’s going to be the highlight of my day. I’m definitely hanging out with Delta Phis all day. I can’t imagine anyone else I’d rather be with.

Anything you’d like to say to fellow seniors?

We did it. I know a few of us didn’t think we’d ever get though it, but it’s been an awesome ride, and I’ve had so much fun with all of them. It still hasn’t hit me that I’m graduating — its nineteen days [from] today. **You are the last That Guy for the 2008-2009 academic year. Any final comments?**

In your face, Greg Collins.

Nick will leave this year having truly given back to the College community with his involvement in SAPA, One in Four, One Accord, the orientation aide and tour guide programs and his two-year presidency in Delta Phi. “Delicious,” accomplished, and friendly, Nick leaves the College carrying a legacy of experiences, accomplishments and fun memories. Best of luck to him and all you seniors out there with your endeavors next year and beyond.

‘Necrofeelings’ show entertains, confuses students

PERFORMANCE *from page 8*

She placed a towel over his face, straddled him, and arched her back, moving her hips back and forth to simulate necrophilia. Simultaneously, the music shifted to a more exotic tone to complement her actions and assure the audience that, yes, this was really happening.

Witkowski said the goal of the piece was to confront the audience members and make them feel uneasy.

“How can we make death more uncomfortable?” he said. “By adding sex to it.”

Though an unsettling experience, Bowers believed the purpose of the segment could put the audience at ease.

“The push to be productive, to always do the right thing, comes from the fear of death. We fear that we will leave this planet without having realized our true potential,” he said. “Instead, the performance suggests that one can be at peace with oneself in all contexts.”

The “Sexy Cooking” segment featured Bowers and Serghi in drag as a chef and his assistant making *Coq à l’Orange*. As the chef babbled in an indistinct European accent and worked over a silver pot, the silhouettes of a rooster and a dildo flashed on the four screens. Meanwhile, Bowers — clad in a mini dress, chartreuse tights and a red bouffant wig — gyrated alone.

“We must put on the protective sheath,” the chef said, unfurling a condom onto a phallic object inside the pot.

The scene devolved in chaos as both characters started dancing and throwing condoms. The seven student performers emerged from beneath a chair in the audience and also threw condoms.

Prior to the performance at the Muscarelle, the class traveled together to Connecticut April 17th and 18th where they performed for graduate students and faculty from the Yale School of Drama.

After the performance, the performers worked with the Yale students in a workshop. The class then headed to Monkeytown, a performance venue in Brooklyn, N.Y., a city well-known for progressive multimedia art.

The class received only positive feedback, despite the shocking material and confusing nature of the show. Witkowski added that despite all this, the audience members still understood the show’s content.

“On the surface, it’s all over the place, but most people got the general concrete premise lying underneath,” he said.

Student musical to run in D.C. fringe

HOUSE OF USHER *from page 8*

Except for one piece written for a full orchestra, the music takes on a much simpler and darker sound when compared to Johnson’s first work because this time, it uses only a single piano, a string quartet and four vocalists.

“Tragedy!” was big, it was loud, it was crude. It was terribly offensive.” Brian Paljug ’09 said. “This has a much more haunting quality ... It’s dark, it’s moody, it’s almost Gothic Romantic.”

Paljug, who has been involved in the project since the first read-through of the script and has sang the male parts in recordings submitted to the festivals. He recently performed in a musical recital of the show in Ewell Hall.

“[Johnson] has really grown a lot musically since ‘Tragedy!’ and you can see this,” Paljug, also involved in ‘Tragedy!’ said. “This music is much more refined.”

“The Fall of the House of Usher” will run for a limited engagement July 11-24 at the Cornerstore Arts Center in Washington, D.C., after which the duo plans to send their book and libretto to regional theaters across the country.

“I think this project has legs,” Cirves said. “It could go places.”

AUDIO ADVENTURE



SUN PARK — THE FLAT HAT

Audio Adventure, sponsored by AMP, began at the Sadler Center Thursday night. Participating students downloaded the same mp3 file and pressed play at 9 p.m., following instructions that led them dancing and singing around campus for several hours.

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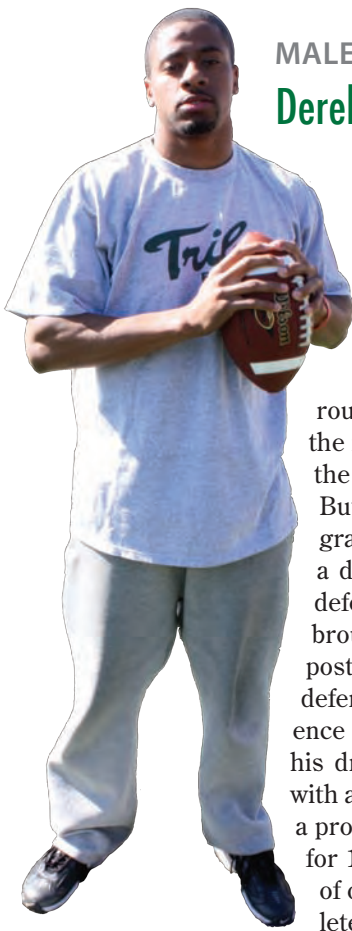


SPORTS

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3RD ANNUAL FLAT HAT SPORTS AWARDS

MEN’S FIRST TEAM



MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
Derek Cox, Football, Senior

A four-year standout cornerback for the Tribe. A two-time captain of the football team. A senior season in which he scored four touchdowns — two on punt returns and two on interception returns — while picking off four passes. And, to cap it off, a third round selection in Sunday’s NFL draft. By the numbers, Cox’s career has been one of the greatest in the history of the College. But the senior’s contributions to the program go further than those statistics. As a defensive lynchpin, Cox spearheaded a defensive revival his senior season, which brought the Tribe to the very brink of a postseason berth — a mere year after the defense finished at the bottom of the conference in total yardage. Several months later, his draft selection is providing the College with an invaluable recruiting selling point for a program that had not had a player drafted for 12 years. For these reasons and a slew of others, Derek Cox is our 2009 male athlete of the year.

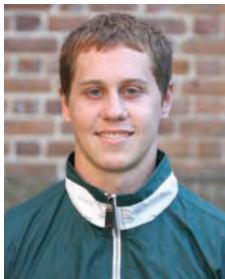
Ian Fitzgerald, Track, Senior

In 2009, Fitzgerald made the mile his focus, earning his first All-American honors in the mile at this winter’s NCAA Indoor Championships. The senior spent the spring season in pursuit of the elusive four-minute mile, a mark that few at the College have ever obtained. He has come close; Fitzgerald ran a 4:00.01 at the University of Washington.



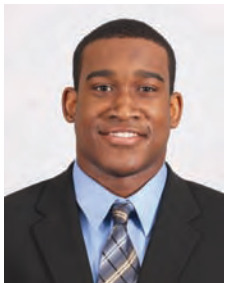
Derek Gygas, Gymnastics, Junior

The junior all-arounder posted a solid season, competing in all six events for the Tribe and qualifying for the NCAAs in the all-around. Gygas led the Tribe to the USAG title and a third-place finish at ECACs. The junior capped the season by being named the conference’s most improved athlete.



Adrian Tracy, Football, Junior

The defensive end turned in a monster of a year for the Tribe, leading a defensive line that ranked among the top in the FCS and proved key in the College’s 7-4 season. Racking up 10 sacks, 72 tackles and a blocked kick, Tracy earned first-team All-CAA honors while notching numerous other area and national accolades.



MEN’S SECOND TEAM

- Doug McBride, Soccer, Senior**
- Jeff Jones, Baseball, Senior**
- Nat Baako, Soccer, Sophomore**
- Rob Nickle, Baseball, Senior**

MEN’S ROOKIE TEAM



Jonathon Grimes, Football

Rushed for 948 yards, averaging 5.7 yards per carry and scoring 10 total touchdowns.



Brandon Heroux, Track and Field

Currently ranked 15th nationally in javelin and has qualified for the NCAA regional championships.



Scott Saal, Golf

Tied for ninth at the season-ending CAA championships, after redshirting his true freshman season.



Quinn McDowell, Basketball

Averaged 28.5 minutes and 9.3 points per game, earning CAA all-rookie honors.

NEXT YEAR’S BEST

Andrew Hoxie

The junior striker tallied a breakout season for the Tribe this past fall, notching 10 goals and five assists despite starting only nine games due to a groin injury. Hoxie returned to the field after redshirting the 2007 season, earning second-team All-CAA honors in the process. A threat to score as much with his head as his feet, expect big things from the 6’4” goal-scorer in 2009 as he leads a strong men’s soccer team looking to improve upon their second place CAA finish.



Photos courtesy of W&M Sports Information, Jim Agnew, John Quinn and Kyle McMahon.

ALL-FLAT HAT

TEAM OF THE YEAR

Men’s Soccer



After falling 1-0 in overtime to the NCAA tournament’s no. 1 ranked Wake Forest University in the second round, the best team at the College saw its season come to an end. The Tribe finished 23rd in the final NCAA RPI ranking, the highest of any CAA squad. The College led the CAA with 1.71 goals per game, with Andrew Hoxie’s 10 goals leading the charge. Nat Baako collected first-team CAA honors after notching six goals and six assists, while Andrew McAdams recorded six shutouts in goal.

COACH OF THE YEAR

Christine Halfpenny, Lacrosse



In only her third year at the helm of the lacrosse team, Halfpenny led the Tribe to its second-straight regular season CAA title before falling to Towson University in the semi-final round of the CAA championships. The coach guided her squad to a 10-6 regular season mark, with five of her losses against top 20 foes, including two overtime setbacks. The energetic Halfpenny was able to turn around an early 5-6 record thanks to a five-game winning streak at the end of the regular season.

GAME OF THE YEAR

No. 16 Tribe vs. no. 6 Richmond



With an FCS playoff berth on the line for the winner, Richmond jumped out to a 20-0 halftime lead, intercepting Tribe quarterback Jake Phillips six times. Late in the second half, the Tribe still trailed 20-6, before senior cornerback Derek Cox returned a punt for a touchdown. The Tribe then recovered an onside kick and a Phillips touchdown sent the game into overtime. Richmond then blocked a College field goal attempt before the Spiders won it with a kick of their own.

PLAY OF THE YEAR

Cox’s 80-yard punt return against UR



With three minutes remaining in the Tribe’s crucial contest against Richmond, the College was trailing 20-6 after falling behind 20-0 at halftime. Needing a spark, the defense forced Richmond to punt from deep in their own territory. Senior cornerback Derek Cox fielded it at his 20, cut past a defender and was gone, streaking 80 yards for the touchdown that brought the Tribe back into the game.

WOMEN’S FIRST TEAM

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Emily Anderson, Track, Junior

In only her second competitive race in the 5,000-m, Anderson finished ninth at indoor nationals to collect the second All-American honor of her College career, making her The Flat Hat’s female athlete of the year. The junior has followed up her winter dominance with a successful spring performance, becoming the second runner in CAA history to win both the 1,500-m and the 5,000-m at the conference championships. For this achievement, she was named the most outstanding athlete of the meet. In cross country, Anderson led the Tribe to its sixth straight CAA championship while winning the individual crown with a time of 21:02. Anderson was also named CAA scholar-athlete of the year during the fall. Currently, Anderson is training to compete in the 1,500-m and 5,000-m at regionals before selecting one event for June’s NCAA championships.



Katie Radloff, Swimming, Junior

Radloff led the swim team to second place at the CAA Championships in March after a successful season in which she set CAA records for the third-straight year in the 50-m free, 100-m free and 200-m free. She competed in three events at the NCAA championships with her highest finish being 24th in the 100-m free.



Claire Zimmeck, Soccer, Senior

The forward earned third-team All-American accolades from Soccer Buzz magazine and second-team honors by the NSCAA. She was one of 15 semifinalists for the Hermann Trophy, given to the top female soccer player annually, after leading the Tribe with 15 goals. In January, the Washington Freedom drafted Zimmeck into the WPS.



Grace Golden, Lacrosse, Soph.

Golden led the Tribe with 44 goals to go along with her 12 assists this spring. She was named to the eight-member Womenslacrosse.com honor role twice and was awarded CAA player of the week on two separate occasions. Golden was named to the first-team all-CAA team and finished the year with a .518 shot percentage.



WOMEN’S SECOND TEAM

- Tiffany Benson, Basketball, Junior**
- Danielle Collins, Soccer, Senior**
- Emily Geary, Lacrosse, Sophomore**
- Kim Mount, Volleyball, Senior**

WOMEN’S ROOKIE TEAM



Taysha Pye, Basketball

Came on strong at the end of the year to finish second on the team in points per game and third in rebounds.



Kristin Milardo, Gymnastics

Consistently led the Tribe in the all-around competition and was a first-team USAG All-American.



Diana Weigel, Soccer

Started 11 games, registering four goals and four assists to finish fourth on the squad in points.



Katie Kargl, Tennis

Battled through injury to go 19-10 in singles and 15-12 in doubles, playing as high as the fourth seed.

NEXT YEAR’S BEST

Taysha Pye

Watching Pye at the end of the women’s basketball season gave the fans a glimpse of the future. The speedy Pye was able to maneuver through the lane with ease and hit a consistent step-back jump shot. Her performances earned her a spot on the CAA rookie team after being named CAA rookie of the week five times. Although she had limited playing time early in the season, Pye was able to find her niche, averaging over 19 points in the College’s final 11 contests.



Written by Matt Poms and Chris Weidman. Special thanks to Jeff Dooley and Andrew Pike.